



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
OMB Information Collection
Approval No.: 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Oklahoma County

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or

Oklahoma City and the State of Oklahoma

Location of Position:

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: OK112

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

☐ Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☐ Beef Cattle
- ☐ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☐ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other _____

☐ Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☐ Beef Cattle
- ☐ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☐ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other : _____

☒ Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- ☐ Food Safety
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Epidemiology
- ☒ Other: Veterinary Regulatory Animal Health

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

A veterinarian meeting this shortage situation will fill the growing need for regulatory animal health officials across the U.S. Oklahoma is blessed with a rich and vital agriculture sector. Agriculture is first or second as the leading industry in Oklahoma depending upon how the oil and gas industry falls. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry has decreasing budget dollars. USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, likewise, has decreasing resources available to Area Offices. As salaries stabilize on the federal side and actually decrease due to the decrease in positions filled on the state side, it is of the utmost importance that all efforts to recruit and keep good regulatory animal health professionals. The veterinary medical loan repayment program could be an incentive to a talented young veterinarian to accept a position with a lower pay scale range.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The veterinarian filling this position will meet a state wide shortage. In Oklahoma, two of our field Veterinary Medical Officers are near retirement and two more are within five to seven years of eligibility to retire. This veterinarian will be located in either the Oklahoma City office of the State Veterinarian or the Area Veterinarian In Charge. The activities would include program disease management, epidemiology, veterinary and disaster emergency response, animal disease traceability, and the progression to a more electronically manageable data base. The service area would include the entire state and all animal agriculture stakeholders.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

It is difficult to recruit and retain veterinarians due to salaries and salary caps. This office has lost two talented young veterinarians that were trained by the state to more lucrative positions.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

The risk is simple and vital, the mission is the protection of the health of the herd and flock of the state of Oklahoma and thereby the protection of the health of the herd and flock of the U.S. The risk is the loss of marketability of the food and fiber production within our state and the U.S.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Becky L. Brewer-Walker

Title: Oklahoma State Veterinarian
Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food and

Organization: Forestry

Email: _____
405 522-6131
Telephone Number: _____
(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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